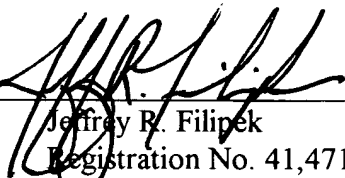


**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of claims 3-6, 8-9, 11-16, and 18, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Toshiyuki KAWAGUCHI et al.

By   
Jeffrey R. Filipek  
Registration No. 41,471  
Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
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